

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

April 9, 2013

“Maternity Hotels” are on the rise and related to a recent “birthing tourism” trend across the United States, whereby homes in residential areas are being transformed into makeshift hotels for foreign visitors to give birth in this country. These so-called maternity hotels cut into legitimate hotel business, evade taxes and cause a nuisance to residents. They also pose serious health and public-safety hazards since basic health, fire and safety regulations are flagrantly disregarded.

We are doing all we can on the local level to stop this practice, and to ensure that our zoning enforcement codes address this. What we also need are clear criminal penalties on the books to create a sufficient deterrent.

AB 192, authored by Assemblyman Curt Hagman, will specify that operating a hotel in violation of local building and zoning codes is illegal within state law. This will give our communities another tool to penalize these unlawful maternity hotel activities before they spread even further.

MOTION

MOLINA _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct our Sacramento advocates to support AB 192 (Hagman), which would create an effective deterrent to opening a maternity hotel, by specifying that operating a hotel in violation of local building and zoning codes is illegal.